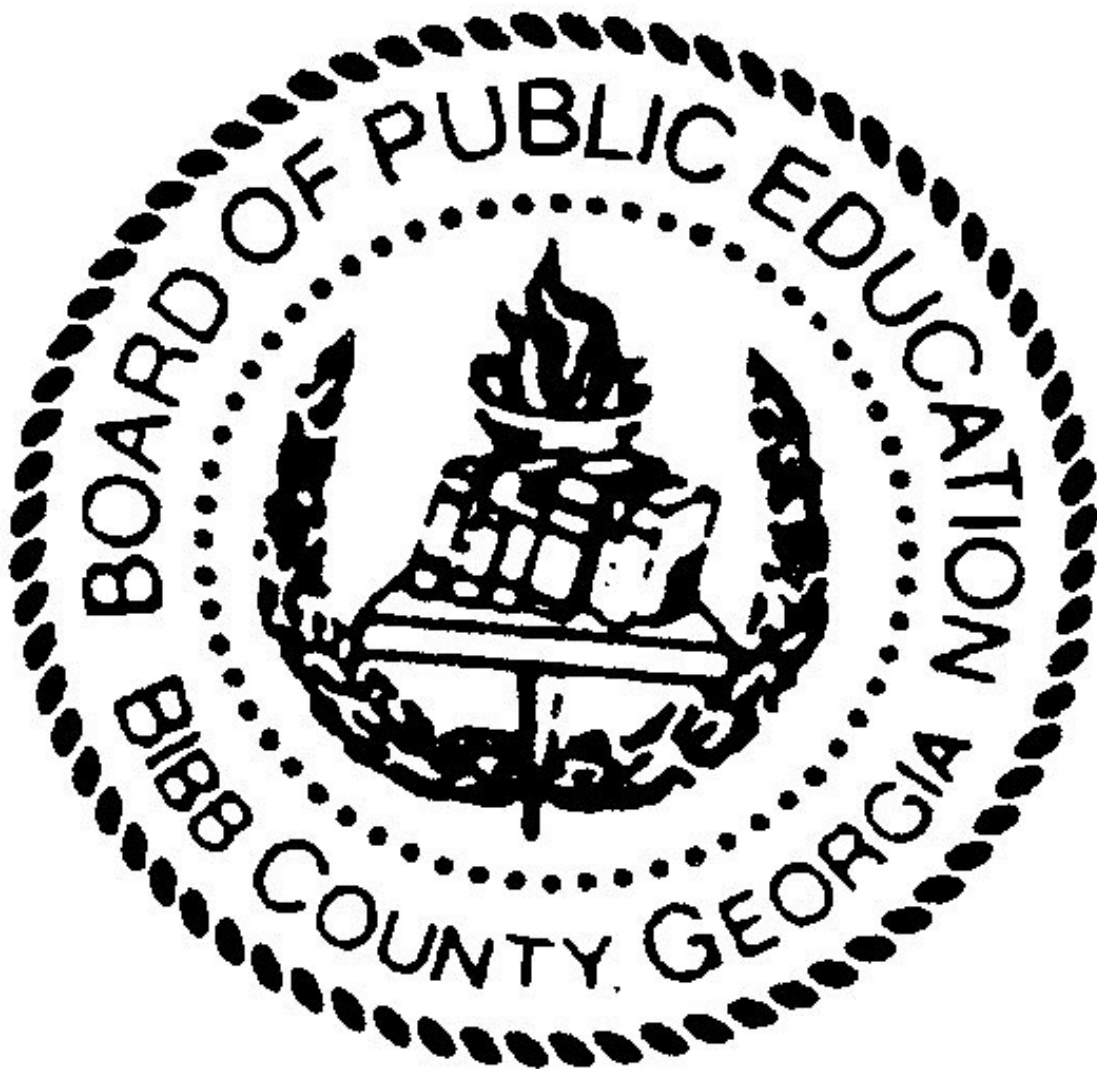


The Board Brief

December 18, 2025



The Board Brief

The Board Brief newsletter is a summary of the information presented and actions taken at Bibb County Board of Education meetings for Bibb County School District in Macon, Ga. Review meeting agendas, district policies, Board member contact information and more on Simbli at <https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/Index.aspx?S=4013>.

Actions

Personnel Items Approved

Board members approved various personnel items. To view personnel items, [click here](#).

(Note: Some items may be delayed in posting. Return soon for updates.)

- The Board recognized Emanuel Frazier, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources for his retirement at the end of December 2025. Dr. LaToya Smith will serve as interim Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources.

District Identifies 2026 Legislative Priorities

Board members approved the 2026 Legislative Priorities as presented. Approval enables District leadership to actively engage legislators, education partners, and advocacy organizations in support of policies and investments that advance student success, workforce stability, and fiscal sustainability for Bibb County Schools. To view the 2026 Legislative Priorities, [click here](#).

GEAR UP Digital Learning Program Approved

Board members approved the Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs (GEAR UP) to enter into contract with Edmentum to provide diagnostic-driven instructional support for GEAR UP students attending after-school tutoring. The GEAR UP grant provides targeted academic tutoring designed to strengthen students' content mastery and improve their readiness for post-secondary pathways. For more information, [click here](#).

Budget and Millage Rate Calendar Approved

Board Policy DCCA directs administration annually to provide a budget calendar for the ensuing fiscal year. This calendar must provide target dates for meetings such as budget work sessions, public hearings, committee, and board meetings for tentative and final adoption of the budget. Board members approved the Fiscal Year 2027 Budget and 2026 Millage Rate Calendar, which will serve to guide us through the upcoming fiscal year 2027 budget process. For more information, [click here](#).

Auditorium Upgrades for Central, Southwest and Howard High Move Forward

Board members approved a contract with Plumblin Construction LLC for services for auditorium upgrades at Central, Southwest, and Howard High Schools. The funds will be paid out of 2021 ESPLOST. The Education Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax is a one percent sales tax approved by voters. For more information, [click here](#).

General Contractor Services for LED Exterior School Signs Approved

Board members approved a contract with The Sign Store, Macon, to provide general contractor services for implementation of new LED Exterior School Signs at seven elementary, one middle and two high schools. The funds will be paid out of 2021 ESPLOST. The Education Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax is a one percent sales tax approved by voters. For more information, [click here](#).

ESPLOST Election Results Certified by Board Members

Board members adopted a resolution to certify the November 4, 2025, election results. On November 4, the voters of Macon-Bibb County approved the Education Special Purpose Local

Option Sales Tax for the sixth consecutive term. The ESPLOST, which supports capital projects across the District through a one percent sales tax, received more than 73 percent of the votes cast. For more information, [click here](#).

Athletics Materials and Uniforms Contract Approved

Board members approved the Athletics Department to enter into agreements with three vendors for athletic uniforms, equipment, supplies, and equipment reconditioning services. For more information, [click here](#).

Workers Compensation Excess Insurance Policy Renewed

Board members authorized the renewal of the District workers' compensation excess insurance policy with Midwest Employers Casualty Insurance Co. for the policy period January 1, 2026, to January 1, 2028. For more information, [click here](#).

Board Reviews Policies

Board members reviewed various policies for first or second reading. Policies must be read twice before they may be voted on for final action. To review the policies, [click here](#).

- Policy JCDAF, Use of Electronic Devices (ACTION - Second Reading)
- Policy IHA, Grading Systems (INFORMATION - First Reading)
- Policy IFBGA, Electronic Communications (INFORMATION - First Reading)
- Policy JGF(2), Seclusion or Restraint of Students (INFORMATION - First Reading)
- Policy JGFG, Student Accidents (INFORMATION - First Reading)

Stakeholders are encouraged to review policies posted after first reading and make public comment via Simbli before the proposed policies are brought back before the Board for action the following month. Simbli may be accessed through the District's website, www.bcsdk12.net, under "About Us" and "Simbli." On [Simbli](#), "Pending Policies" will appear on the right side of the screen.

Information

Update on Federally Identified Schools

Dr. Tamara J. Candis, Associate Superintendent of Schools, presented to Board members to provide an understanding of the criteria for federally identified schools, as well as the state identification of each school. Additionally, the presentation outlined the District's plan of support to ensure that the schools receive the necessary assistance to meet federal and state standards. To view the presentation, [click here](#).

[Click here to read about how data-driven processes have yielded progress for Bibb Schools.](#)

Spring 2026 Graduation Dates Announced

Below are the Spring 2026 Graduation Dates:

Tuesday, May 19, 2026 at 1 PM – Southwest High School

Tuesday, May 19, 2026 at 4 PM – Northeast High School

Wednesday, May 20, 2026 at 10 AM – VIP Academy

Wednesday, May 20, 2026 at 1 PM – Central High School

Wednesday, May 20, 2026 at 4 PM – Howard High School

Thursday, May 21, 2026 at 1 PM – Westside High School

Superintendent's Highlights

- **ARTWORK BY BIBB STUDENTS:** This month's artwork highlights holiday cards and artwork created by students throughout the District in celebration of the season! A special shout-out goes to this year's artist for the Superintendent's Holiday Card: Avery Denny, a first grader at Dr. John H. Heard Elementary, Academic Magnet.
- **CELEBRATIONS & APPRECIATION:** Thank you to schools and departments throughout the District for bringing recognition and awareness to these events this month: National Special Education Day, Inclusive Schools Week, Hour of Code, and PBIS Awareness Week!
- **STUDENT SPEAKS AT GSBA CONFERENCE:** Rutland High School senior Addison Colbert addressed the crowd of state leaders at the annual Georgia School Boards Association Conference in Atlanta this month.
- **CONGRATULATIONS, NEW REACH SCHOLARS!:** The newest cohort of REACH Georgia Scholars participated in a signing ceremony this month. The REACH Georgia Scholarship will provide these eighth-grade students with supports throughout their high school careers on the way to a \$10,000 scholarship, which is matched and even double-matched by some Georgia universities. Congratulations to this year's scholars Ja'Laila Walker of Appling Middle; Dominic Vega of Ballard-Hudson Middle; Leilani Lester of Howard Middle; Antwion Scott of Rutland Middle; and Uneeq McElroy of Rutland Middle.
- **UNION CELEBRATES NEW BETA CHARTER:** Union Elementary celebrated its new Beta Club chapter, officially chartered this fall, with its first induction ceremony. Students beamed with pride as they became official members of the National Beta Club. Congratulations to this inaugural group!
- **BIBB COUNTY YOUNG FARMERS CONNECTIONS:** Our Bibb County Young Farmers program, led by instructor Robbie Bartlett, held one of its first events at Fall Line this month, making connections between agriculture and local restaurants and the brewing industry. BCSD was granted approval through the State Legislature to join the elite Georgia Young Farmers program this school year. The program is meant to serve as a vital adult education arm of both FFA and the Bibb Schools, strengthening agriculture and agribusiness across Macon and Middle Georgia.
- **STUDENT ENTREPRENEURS ADVANCE WITH FLEX:** Narrowed down from 20 business applications this year, our Top 10 finalists in the Bibb FLEX Competition participated in a signing day in celebration of their dedication, leadership, and continued growth. Student entrepreneurs will participate in Jen's Market on Saturday, December 20, from 12 – 8 PM at Howard Community Club. Please stop by and support their businesses!
- **WALKING SCHOOL BUS BOOSTS ATTENDANCE:** Thank you to Community Schools United for hosting their Walking School Bus to kick off December at Williams Elementary! Students and staff were greeted by Central High School Cheerleaders. Volunteers from Bike Walk Macon, Brookdale Resource Center, Macon-Bibb Fire Department, and Macon-Bibb County greeted our walkers with positive conversations on the way to school.
- **SISTER CITY CUISINE IN THE 'CLASSROOM':** Executive Chef Stuart Hardy, who is our 2026 Bibb Teacher of the Year, recently participated in BCSD's sister city visit to Kurobe, Japan. In recognition of the experience, Chef Hardy incorporated the cultural cuisine into the Culinary Arts Pathway curriculum at Hutchings College and Career Academy's Compass Rose Café.

- **NORTHEAST CADETS VISIT STATE CAPITOL:** Thank you to Macon-Bibb Commissioner Paul Bronson for facilitating a visit for Northeast High's JROTC Cadet Leadership, under the leadership of First Sergeant Curtis Brown Jr., SGM Darryl Tutt, and LTC Gregory Brown, to the Georgia Capitol. Student leaders met with Rep. Long Tran and Rep. Teddy Reese to learn about government in action.
- **BUILDING SKILLS WITH USHER'S NEW LOOK:** Usher's New Look, a nonprofit foundation designed to help youth find their passion and reach their full potential, visited Central High School to teach students about branding and networking in pursuit of their future goals. This included techniques for using generative AI to create and hone an elevator speech. Partnerships like this help prepare our students to succeed beyond graduation!
- **LEADERSHIP DAYS HIGHLIGHT 'LEADER IN ME':** Several schools throughout the District hosted Leadership Days over the past month. During Leadership Day, students and staff have an opportunity to share with parents and community how they are achieving high standards of implementation of Leader in Me and Stephen Covey's book "The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People."
- **JOANNA'S CLOSET SUPPORTS WORKFORCE:** BCSD in collaboration with the CGTC Adult Education Division held a ribbon cutting for Joanna's Closet, a professional clothing resource designed to support adult education students. The space honors the memory of former Bibb educator Joanna Summerow and will serve as a hub for career readiness, equipping students with the tools they need to become workforce-ready.
- **GHSA INSPIRATION AWARD:** Roger Jackson, an alumnus of Central High School and President of the Central High School Booster Club, was presented with the GHSA Inspiration Award. After a successful career in the NFL, he founded the Motivating Youth Foundation, and through partnerships with various companies, he consistently supplies essential resources to families in need. Congratulations, and thank you for your support!
- **PILOT PAYMENT AND NEW PATHWAY:** Bibb Schools signed a statement of collaboration with government and business partners this week to celebrate the launch of the Advanced Manufacturing Pathway in the District. The pathway is scheduled to open for classes in Fall 2026 at the Innovation and Technology Academy, a facility designed to prepare Bibb County's students for careers in STEM.
- **FAMILY CONNECTIONS:** Central High School Glee Club performed this week for our monthly MVP+ meeting with administrators. It was a joy and honor to have present several students whose parents are leaders in our district, proving that we are truly invested in our future here in Bibb Schools.
- **CAROLING FOR A CAUSE: ATTENDANCE:** Students, families, and staff are invited to join "I Believe N Me" and community partners for the first-ever Christmas Caroling Concert, "Carol for a Cause," on Monday, December 22, beginning at 3:00 PM. This festive, family-friendly event supports I Believe N Me and the Attendance Pep Rally initiative in partnership with Bibb Schools, reinforcing the message that showing up is the first step to success. There will be music by AJ the DJ, and free cocoa and gifts for children under 10. The event will take place at 382 Cherry Street, in the parking lot of the Georgia Sports Hall of Fame.
- **ON THE HORIZON: WILLIAMS HEALTH CENTER:** Save the date for the opening celebration of the School-Based Health Center at L.H. Williams Elementary School on Friday, Jan. 9, 2026, at 10:30 AM. This will be the THIRD school-based health center to open in the district!
- **ENJOY RETIREMENT, MR. FRAZIER:** After 27 years in Bibb County School District, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources Emanuel Frazier is retiring at the end of this month. He has worn many hats in this district and mentored countless students and staff, and will be so very missed.

- **HAPPY HOLIDAYS:** On behalf of the District, we wish you and your family a joyous holiday season!
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Highlights

Meet the New Leaders

Congratulations Dr. Maisah Holloman, Assistant Principal, Matilda Hartley Elementary School.

2025 GSBA Exemplary Board

The Georgia School Boards Association recently honored local boards that display reliable school governance and leadership. The Bibb County Board of Education was recognized as Exemplary, the highest level of GSBA recognition. The award marks the third consecutive year the Bibb County Board of Education has reached Exemplary status, and we are thankful for this team's leadership in recent years!

TrustEd Apps Certified Leader (TACL)

In recent years, safe student access to technology and digital resources has become increasingly important to our everyday work as a District. As part of this effort, Dr. Sarah Mayberry, Director of Media Services, has recently received her TrustED Apps Certified Leader designation. This TACL certification lasts three years and required Dr. Mayberry to complete 50 hours of learning in modules related to data privacy, curriculum innovation, and more. Congratulations Dr. Mayberry!

Partnership Impact Award: The Cozy Corner Partners

Each month, we take a moment to shine a spotlight on a partner whose contributions have made a meaningful difference for our students, staff, and families. This month's honor was highly recommended by Principal Tawanya Wilson at Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Elementary School. We are honored to present the Partnership Impact Award to the Master Gardeners of Central Georgia and Keep Macon-Bibb Beautiful for their outstanding work on The Cozy Corner Project. The Cozy Corner initiative brought together students, staff, teachers, parents, and community partners to transform a previously underutilized flower bed into a beautiful, flourishing, and welcoming outdoor space. Now, Raiders can gather, socialize, and enjoy the beauty of nature in an environment that encourages strategic thinking, fun, and meaningful friendships. This partnership stands as a shining example of what can be accomplished when a community unites to create opportunities for scholars to learn, grow, and lead with courage, wisdom, and pride.

Partnership Impact Award: George McCanless, United Way of Central Georgia

This month, we would also like to honor George McCanless, CEO of United Way of Central Georgia, and the entire United Way organization for outstanding service to our district and community. Under Mr. McCanless's leadership, United Way has continued to transform lives by addressing the needs that most directly affect student learning and well-being. His leadership has strengthened the partnership between United Way and Bibb County Schools, helping us remove barriers to academic success and ensuring that every child has the opportunity to thrive. Through initiatives such as Read United, United Way has played a vital role in improving early grade reading skills across our district. This work directly supports our strategic priority of working toward the goal of 100% of students reading on grade level, a cornerstone of long-term academic success. Programs like Parents as Teachers and other early childhood supports championed by

United Way also ensure that our youngest learners and their families are prepared for school readiness, literacy development, and overall success.

Region 2-A, Division 1 Title Winners

This year's Northeast High School Raider football team finished the season 10-3, and their 8-1 record in Region 2-A, Division 1 marked the school's first region title in football since 2009. This season also marked a school-record sixth consecutive playoff berth, and the Raiders reached the state quarterfinals in consecutive seasons for the first time in school history. Head Coach Jeremy Wiggins, the region's Coach of the Year, is joined tonight by seniors Reginald "Bam" Glover, Tailen Sampson, Tayvon Shivers and Amari White. Glover, who was named All-Region First Team Wide Receiver, finishes his high school career with more than 3,500 passing yards, 2,500 rushing yards, 450 receiving yards and 85 total touchdowns. Sampson, the region's Defensive Player of the Year; Shivers, the region's Linebacker of the Year; and White, a First Team All-Region Defensive Lineman helped anchor a Raider defense that surrendered just 9.3 points per game.

Flag Football Area Championship

In all four years that flag football has been played as a varsity sport in Bibb County schools, the Westside High School Lady Seminoles have won their area championship and advanced to the state playoffs. That includes this season, in which Westside won Division 2, Area 3 with a perfect area record of 9-0. The Lady Seminoles hosted the first two rounds of the playoffs, defeating Cedar Grove before taking their first loss of the season to Calvary Day in the second round. This brought their season record to 17-1. Tonight, Head Coach Josh Grube is joined by two members of his senior class, as well as assistant coach Tyliq Griffen. Quarterback Taylor Talton threw for more than 1,600 yards and 30 touchdowns while rushing for 534 more yards and 13 more scores. Jorden Billue anchored the middle of the field as center and caught 33 passes for 243 yards and a touchdown.

Retirement Recognition

After 27 years in Bibb County School District, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources Emanuel Frazier is retiring at the end of this month. He has worn many hats in this district and mentored countless students and staff, and will be so very missed. Congratulations on your retirement, Mr. Frazier!

BUDGET: District Receives PILOT Payment from MBCIA

[Macon-Bibb County Industrial Authority](#) presented [Superintendent Dr. Dan A. Sims](#) with a check for the annual Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) Payment to the Bibb County School District on Wednesday, December 18, 2025. The PILOT Program is a local tax incentive designed to encourage businesses to invest in the community and create jobs. In return for their commitment, participating companies receive structured property tax discounts tied to investment levels and job creation. These annual PILOT contributions continue to strengthen the community's capacity to support initiatives that enhance economic development and educational opportunity.

Visit www.facebook.com/bibbschools for photos of highlights and recognitions.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Skylar Louis, a 4th grade student at Matilda Hartley Elementary School.

Board Members

The following Board Members were present at this meeting:

Ms. Myrtice C. Johnson, District 1 - President

Mr. Daryl J. Morton, At-Large, Post 7 - Vice President

Mrs. Kristin C. Hanlon, District 3 - Treasurer

Dr. Henry C. Ficklin, District 2

Mr. Barney T. Hester, District 4

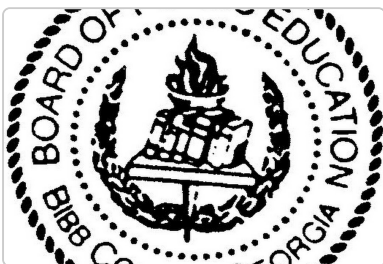
Dr. Sundra M. Woodford, District 5

Mr. James M. Freeman, District 6

Dr. Lisa W. Garrett-Boyd, At-Large, Post 8

To learn more about Bibb County Board of Education members, [click here](#).

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Bibb County School District

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